

The Claims

1. (Original) One or more computer-readable media containing a computer program for annotating streaming media, wherein the program performs steps comprising:

creating annotations interactively with a user, wherein the annotations correspond to identified segments of one or more media streams;

graphically ordering the annotations in a desired order of presentation in response to user input; and

in response to a user instruction, sequentially presenting the annotations along with their corresponding identified media stream segments in the desired order of presentation.

2. (Original) One or more computer-readable media as recited in claim 1, wherein the annotations comprise textual annotations.

3. (Original) One or more computer-readable media as recited in claim 1, wherein the media streams comprise audio/visual video streams.

4. (Original) One or more computer-readable media as recited in claim 1, wherein:

the annotations are textual annotations;

the media streams are audio/visual video streams; and

the presenting step comprises displaying the textual annotations in one display area while displaying the corresponding segments of the audio/visual streams in another display area.

5. (Original) One or more computer-readable media as recited in claim 1, the steps further comprising storing the annotations and their desired order of presentation.

6. (Original) One or more computer-readable media as recited in claim 1, the steps further comprising:

C1 storing the annotations and their desired order of presentation; and
in response to a user request,

retrieving the stored annotations and their desired order of presentation,

displaying the retrieved annotations in their desired order of presentation, and

retrieving and presenting the media stream segments identified by the retrieved annotations, in sequential order in accordance with the desired order of presentation of the retrieved annotations.

C2 12. (Previously presented) A method comprising:

receiving an indication of a plurality of annotations selected by a user, wherein each of the plurality of annotations corresponds to a media stream or to one or more media streams;

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presenting a plurality of annotation identifiers to the user;
allowing the ordering of the plurality of annotation identifiers to be changed by the user;
seamlessly providing one or more of,
the plurality of annotations, and
at least a portion of the media stream corresponding to each of the plurality of annotations;
wherein the seamlessly providing comprises seamlessly providing the one or more of the plurality of annotations and the portion of the media stream corresponding to each of the plurality of annotations in an order defined by the order of the plurality of annotation identifiers.

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13. (Original) A method as recited in claim 12, further comprising:
allowing the user to change the order of the plurality of annotation identifiers in a drag and drop manner.

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28. (Original) One or more computer-readable storage media containing a program having instructions that are executable by a computer to perform steps comprising:

configuring a first portion of a user interface to display a plurality of identifiers corresponding to a plurality of annotations, the plurality of identifiers corresponding to a playlist of media segments to be seamlessly presented to a user;
and

reordering the plurality of identifiers in accordance with user input to change the order in which the media segments are to be presented.

29. (Original) One or more computer-readable storage media as claimed in claim 28, the program having instructions that are executable by the computer to further perform a step comprising:

receiving the media segments from a media server in an order determined by the playlist.

30. (Original) One or more computer-readable storage media as claimed in claim 28, the program having instructions that are executable by the computer to further perform steps comprising:

c4 receiving the media segments from a media server in an order determined by the playlist; and

presenting the media segments at the user interface in the order determined by the playlist.

31. (Original) One or more computer-readable storage media as claimed in claim 28, the program having instructions that are executable by the computer to further perform a step comprising:

allowing the user to reorder the plurality of identifiers in a drag and drop manner.

32. (Original) One or more computer-readable storage media as claimed in claim 28, the program having instructions that are executable by the computer to further perform a step comprising:

c4 configuring a second portion of the user interface to present the plurality of annotations concurrently with the media segments.

33. (Original) One or more computer-readable storage media as claimed in claim 28, wherein each of the media segments comprises audio and video data.

c5 34. (Previously presented) A method comprising:

graphically ordering annotations in a desired order of presentation in response to user input, wherein the annotations correspond to identified segments of one or more media streams; and

in response to a user instruction, sequentially presenting the annotations along with their corresponding identified media stream segments in the desired order of presentation.

35. (Previously presented) A method as recited in claim 34, wherein:
the annotations are textual annotations;
the media streams are audio/visual video streams; and
the presenting comprises displaying the textual annotations in one display area while displaying the corresponding segments of the audio/visual streams in another display area.

36. (Previously presented) A method as recited in claim 34, further comprising storing the annotations and the desired order of presentation.

37. (Previously presented) A method as recited in claim 36, further comprising:

in response to a user request,

retrieving the stored annotations and the desired order of presentation,

displaying the retrieved annotations in their desired order of presentation, and

retrieving and presenting the media stream segments identified by the retrieved annotations, in sequential order in accordance with the desired order of presentation of the retrieved annotations.

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38. (Previously presented) A method comprising:

configuring a first portion of a user interface to display a plurality of identifiers corresponding to a plurality of annotations, the plurality of identifiers corresponding to a playlist of media segments to be seamlessly presented to a user; and

reordering the plurality of identifiers in accordance with user input to change the order in which the media segments are to be presented.

39. (Previously presented) A method as recited in claim 38, further comprising:

receiving the media segments from a media server in an order determined by the playlist; and

presenting the media segments at the user interface in the order determined by the playlist.

40. (Previously presented) A method as recited in claim 38, further comprising:

allowing the user to reorder the plurality of identifiers in a drag and drop manner.

41. (Previously presented) A method as recited in claim 38, further comprising:

configuring a second portion of the user interface to present the plurality of annotations concurrently with the media segments.

42. (Previously presented) A method comprising:

graphically ordering annotations in a desired order of presentation in response to user input, wherein the annotations correspond to identified segments of one or more media streams; and

in response to a user instruction, sequentially presenting the annotations in the desired order of presentation.

43. (Previously presented) A method comprising:

graphically ordering annotations in a desired order of presentation in response to user input, wherein the annotations correspond to identified segments of one or more media streams; and

in response to a user input, sequentially presenting the identified media segments corresponding to the annotations in the desired order of presentation.

44. (Previously presented) A system comprising:

means for configuring a first portion of a user interface to display a plurality of identifiers corresponding to a plurality of annotations, the plurality of identifiers corresponding to a playlist of media segments to be seamlessly presented to a user; and

means for reordering the plurality of identifiers in accordance with user input to change the order in which the media segments are to be presented.

45. (Previously presented) A system as recited in claim 44, further comprising:

means for receiving the media segments from a media server in an order determined by the playlist; and

means for presenting the media segments at the user interface in the order determined by the playlist.

46. (Previously presented) A system as recited in claim 44, further comprising:

means for allowing the user to reorder the plurality of identifiers in a drag and drop manner.

47. (Previously presented) A system as recited in claim 44, further comprising:

means for configuring a second portion of the user interface to present the plurality of annotations concurrently with the media segments.

48. (Previously presented) A method comprising:

creating annotations interactively with a user, wherein the annotations correspond to identified segments of one or more media streams;

graphically ordering the annotations in a desired order of presentation in response to user input; and

in response to a user instruction, sequentially presenting the annotations along with their corresponding identified media stream segments in the desired order of presentation.

49. (Previously presented) A method as recited in claim 48, wherein:

the annotations are textual annotations;

the media streams are audio/visual video streams; and

the presenting comprises displaying the textual annotations in one display area while displaying the corresponding segments of the audio/visual streams in another display area.

50. (Previously presented) A method as recited in claim 48, further comprising storing the annotations and their desired order of presentation.

51. (Previously presented) A method as recited in claim 48, further comprising:

storing the annotations and their desired order of presentation; and
in response to a user request,

retrieving the stored annotations and their desired order of presentation,

displaying the retrieved annotations in their desired order of presentation, and

retrieving and presenting the media stream segments identified by the retrieved annotations, in sequential order in accordance with the desired order of presentation of the retrieved annotations.

52. (Previously presented) A system comprising:

a processor; and

a memory configured to store a plurality of instructions for execution by the processor and that cause the system to:

create annotations interactively with a user, wherein the annotations correspond to identified segments of one or more media streams;

graphically order the annotations in a desired order of presentation in response to user input; and

in response to a user instruction, sequentially present the annotations along with their corresponding identified media stream segments in the desired order of presentation.

53. (Previously presented) A system as recited in claim 52, wherein:

the annotations are textual annotations;

the media streams are audio/visual video streams; and

C5 the system presents the annotations by displaying the textual annotations in one display area while displaying the corresponding segments of the audio/visual streams in another display area.

(54.) (Previously presented) A method comprising:

receiving an indication of a plurality of annotations selected by a user, wherein each of the plurality of annotations corresponds to a media stream or to one or more media streams; and

seamlessly providing, in an order which is identified by the user and can be changed by the user, one or more of,

the plurality of annotations, and

at least a portion of the media stream corresponding to each of the plurality of annotations.

55. (Previously presented) A method as recited in claim 54, wherein the seamlessly providing comprises providing the plurality of annotations and the portions of the media streams corresponding to the plurality of annotations to a client computer for seamless presentation to a user.

56. (Previously presented) A method as recited in claim 54, wherein each of the plurality of annotations corresponds to a segment of one of the one or more media streams, each segment being less than the entire stream.

57. (Previously presented) A method as recited in claim 54, wherein the seamlessly providing comprises:

CS seamlessly providing the plurality of annotations concurrently with seamlessly providing at least a portion of the media stream corresponding to each of the plurality of annotations.

58. (Previously presented) A method as recited in claim 54, further comprising:

presenting a plurality of annotation identifiers to the user; and

wherein the seamlessly providing comprises seamlessly providing the one or more of the plurality of annotations and the portion of the media stream corresponding to each of the plurality of annotations in an order defined by the order of the plurality of annotation identifiers.

59. (Previously presented) A method as recited in claim 54, further comprising:

storing the at least a portion of the media stream corresponding to each of the plurality of annotations as a new media stream of the one or more media streams.

60. (Previously presented) A method as recited in claim 54, wherein each of the plurality of annotations comprises one or more of audio data and text data.

61. (Previously presented) A method as recited in claim 54, wherein each of the one or more media streams comprises audio and video data.

C5 62. (Previously presented) A computer-readable memory containing a computer program that is executable by a computer to perform the method recited in claim 54.

63. (Previously presented) A system comprising:

an annotation database that stores one or more collections of annotations, wherein each of the annotations identifies at least a segment of a media stream; and

an annotation module to control storage and retrieval of the plurality of annotations, wherein the annotation module is configured to perform steps comprising:

retrieving a particular collection of annotations from the annotation database;

presenting the annotations of the retrieved collection to a user in an order which is input by the user and which can be changed by the user; and

managing sequential presentation to the user of the media stream segments corresponding to the presented annotations.

64. (Previously presented) A system as recited in claim 63, wherein the annotation module is further configured to perform a step of communicating with a client computer to provide indications of the plurality of annotations to the client computer for display to the user.

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65. (Previously presented) A system as recited in claim 64, wherein the indications of the plurality of annotations comprise summary information for each of the plurality of annotations.

66. (Previously presented) A system as recited in claim 64, wherein each of the plurality of annotations corresponds to an annotation set, and wherein the annotation module is further configured to perform a step of providing the annotation set information to the client computer.

67. (Previously presented) A system as recited in claim 63, wherein each of the media stream segments comprises audio and video data.

68. (Previously presented) A system as recited in claim 63, wherein the annotation module is further configured to perform a step of saving information regarding the media stream segments as an additional new media stream.

69. (Previously presented) A system as recited in claim 68, wherein the information regarding each of the media stream segments comprises an identifier of a media stream of which the media segment is a part, a temporal location in the media stream identifying where the media segment begins, and a temporal location in the media stream identifying where the media segment ends.

70. (Previously presented) A system as recited in claim 63, further comprising:

C5 a client computer, coupled to the annotation module, configured to receive the media stream segments and present the media stream segments to the user.

71. (Previously presented) A system as recited in claim 70, further comprising:

a media server, coupled to the annotation module, having access to a plurality of media streams, the media server configured to provide at least a portion of the plurality of media streams to the client computer as the media stream segments.

C5 72. (Previously presented) A system as recited in claim 63, wherein each of the plurality of annotation identifiers corresponds to a single media stream of the plurality of media streams.

73. (Currently amended) A method comprising:
receiving an indication of particular user-selected annotations of a plurality of annotations ~~selected by a user~~, wherein each of the plurality of annotations corresponds to a media stream or to one or more media streams; and
seamlessly providing one or more of,
the ~~plurality of~~ user-selected annotations, and
at least a portion of the media stream corresponding to each of the ~~plurality of~~ user-selected annotations.

C6 74. (Currently amended) A method as recited in claim 73, wherein the seamlessly providing comprises providing the ~~plurality of~~ user-selected annotations and the portions of the media streams corresponding to the ~~plurality of~~ user-selected annotations to a client computer for seamless presentation to a user.

75. (Previously presented) A method as recited in claim 73, wherein each of the plurality of annotations corresponds to a segment of one of the one or more media streams, each segment being less than the entire stream.

76. (Currently amended) A method as recited in claim 73, wherein the seamlessly providing comprises:

seamlessly providing the ~~plurality of~~ user-selected annotations concurrently with seamlessly providing at least a portion of the media stream corresponding to each of the ~~plurality of~~ user-selected annotations.

77. (Currently amended) A method as recited in claim 73, further comprising:

presenting a plurality of annotation identifiers to the user; and

wherein the seamlessly providing comprises seamlessly providing the one or more of the ~~plurality of~~ user-selected annotations and the portion of the media stream corresponding to each of the ~~plurality of~~ user-selected annotations in an order defined by the order of the plurality of annotation identifiers.

78. (Currently amended) A method as recited in claim 73, further comprising:

storing the at least a portion of the media stream corresponding to each of the ~~plurality of~~ user-selected annotations as a new media stream of the one or more media streams.

79. (Previously presented) A method as recited in claim 73, wherein each of the plurality of annotations comprises one or more of audio data and text data.

80. (Previously presented) A method as recited in claim 73, wherein each of the one or more media streams comprises audio and video data.

81. (Previously presented) A computer-readable memory containing a computer program that is executable by a computer to perform the method recited in claim 73.

82. (Previously presented) A system comprising:
an annotation database that stores one or more collections of annotations, wherein each of the annotations identifies at least a segment of a media stream; and

an annotation module to control storage and retrieval of the plurality of annotations, wherein the annotation module is configured to perform steps comprising:

retrieving a particular collection of annotations from the annotation database;

presenting the annotations of the retrieved collection to a user; and

managing sequential presentation to the user of the media stream segments corresponding to the presented annotations.

83. (Previously presented) A system as recited in claim 82, wherein the annotation module is further configured to perform a step of communicating with a client computer to provide indications of the plurality of annotations to the client computer for display to the user.

84. (Previously presented) A system as recited in claim 83, wherein the indications of the plurality of annotations comprise summary information for each of the plurality of annotations.

85. (Previously presented) A system as recited in claim 83, wherein each of the plurality of annotations corresponds to an annotation set, and wherein the annotation module is further configured to perform a step of providing the annotation set information to the client computer.

86. (Previously presented) A system as recited in claim 82, wherein each of the media stream segments comprises audio and video data.

87. (Previously presented) A system as recited in claim 82, wherein the annotation module is further configured to perform a step of saving information regarding the media stream segments as an additional new media stream.

88. (Previously presented) A system as recited in claim 87, wherein the information regarding each of the media stream segments comprises an identifier of a media stream of which the media segment is a part, a temporal location in the media stream identifying where the media segment begins, and a temporal location in the media stream identifying where the media segment ends.

89. (Previously presented) A system as recited in claim 82, further comprising:

a client computer, coupled to the annotation module, configured to receive the media stream segments and present the media stream segments to the user.

90. (Previously presented) A system as recited in claim 89, further comprising:

a media server, coupled to the annotation module, having access to a plurality of media streams, the media server configured to provide at least a portion of the plurality of media streams to the client computer as the media stream segments.

91. (Previously presented) A system as recited in claim 82, wherein each of the plurality of annotation identifiers corresponds to a single media stream of the plurality of media streams.